

NEW RECORD FOR *IXODES TEXANUS* (ACARINA: IXODIDAE) BANKS IN MISSISSIPPI, WITH A NEW HOST RECORD^{1,2}

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ABSTRACT: Nymphs of *Ixodes texanus* were collected in Marshall County, Mississippi from raccoon, rabbit and mice. This collection represents a new state record and the white-footed mouse is a new host record for the nymph.

Ixodes texanus Banks, the raccoon tick, is an important parasite of raccoons in the eastern United States and is known from at least 30 states (Clifford et al, 1960; Darsie and Anastos, 1957; Keirans and Clifford, 1978). Hosts include raccoon, ground squirrel, gray squirrel, pine squirrel, weasel, marten, chipmunk, mink, opossum, rabbit, gray fox, woodchuck, and domestic dog (Clifford et al, 1960; Cooley and Kohls, 1945; Cooney and Hays, 1972; Cooney and Burgdorfer, 1974).

In a study of tick and rickettsial infections of mammals in northern Mississippi, 21 nymphs of *I. texanus* were collected: 14 from two raccoons, *Procyon lotor*; 4 from two cottontail rabbits, *Silvilagus floridanus*; and 3 from a white-footed mouse, *Peromyscus leucopus* (Stricklin, 1975).

The presence of this tick in Mississippi has never been reported but was predicted in light of the results of surveys conducted in other Southern states (Cooney and Hays, 1972; Lancaster, 1973).

Raccoon and rabbits have been previously reported as hosts for *I. texanus*, but the white-footed mouse represents a new host record for the nymph of this species. With the exception of 2 specimens which are in the MSU collection, all specimens are deposited in the Rocky Mountain Laboratories Collection.

New Records

Marshall Co., Wall Doxey State Park, 7-III-1975, L.S. Stricklin, raccoon, 11 nymphs; 23-III-1975, L.S. Stricklin, raccoon, 3 nymphs; 20-V-1975, L.S. Stricklin, cottontail rabbit, 2 nymphs; 13-VIII-1975, L.S. Stricklin, cottontail rabbit, 2 nymphs; 12-IV-1975, L.S. Stricklin, white-footed mouse, 3 nymphs.

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Up to date reviews on selected aspects of the ultrastructure of gametes, of developing cells, and of the development, differentiation, and functioning of specialized tissues and organs. From the proceedings, International Conference on Insect Cells.